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**JUL 07 2006**

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2143  
Docket No.: 122.1435**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:

Kazutaka KOCHI et al.

Serial No. 09/772,919

Group Art Unit: 2143

Confirmation No. 9988

Filed: January 31, 2001

Examiner: BOUTAH, ALINA A

For: **SYSTEM FOR OPERATING A PLURALITY OF APPARATUSES BASED ON  
ACCUMULATED OPERATING TIMES THEREOF TO EQUALIZE THE RESPECTIVE  
OPERATING TIMES OF THE APPARATUSES (AS AMENDED)**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attention: **BOX AF**

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed February 7, 2006, and having a period for response set to expire on May 7, 2006. A Petition for a two-month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to July 7, 2006.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. The following remarks are respectfully submitted.

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